

177/10774

16 December 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Herbert E. Hetu  
Assistant to the Director  
(Public Affairs)

SUBJECT: Meeting with Mike Wallace

STAT

1. ☐ You will meet this afternoon at 1630 with Mike Wallace and Barry Lando (Washington producer) of "60 Minutes." Following the Snapp interview on "60 Minutes," which was aired on Sunday, 20 November, Wallace called to say the mail received was disturbing because a large majority of the people writing in were upset by the fact that someone like Snapp was able to print information without having it cleared. Apparently many of these people also questioned the adequacy of laws and sanctions to protect secret information. Wallace said he was interested in doing a "60 Minutes" show on the subject of secrecy--what sanctions now exist, whether or not they are adequate, if changes are necessary, and if so, what sort of changes are required. Wallace said he would like to feature the DCI in such a show.

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2. ☐ In the meantime, Wallace, Lando and I have had several conversations preliminary to their meeting with you today. In these conversations I have made the following points regarding any such interview on film:

a. That the DCI would not participate in a panel discussion on the subject (it had been suggested that a panel be formed with the present and past DCI's).

b. That any interview conducted by Wallace with the DCI must run as one entity on the show (not necessarily unedited but as one block section of the show). That the interview not be edited and played in segments against some one or more other persons espousing opposing or differing points of view.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE *Pub Affs*)

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c. That the interview not be devoted to a discussion of Frank Snepp and his book. Obviously, references could and probably would be made to Snepp as symptomatic of the problem, but we have no wish to talk at length about Snepp and thereby give him additional free publicity.

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4. ☐ As you know, Senator Biden, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Secrecy and Disclosure of the SSCI, wrote you a letter on 8 December informing you that he planned to hold hearings on pretty much the same subject in late January. We would not wish to get out ahead of those hearings on "60 Minutes."

Herbert E. Hetu

A/DCI/PAO/HEH/kgf/16 December 1977

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